

Notices to Consignees.

"SHAKSPERE" FROM LONDON.
CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named vessel are requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the undersigned for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods. Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.
Hongkong, January 18, 1869. ja27

"SIR HENRY HAYLOCK," FROM LONDON.
CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named vessel are requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the undersigned for countersignature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods.
Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.
RAY & Co.
Hongkong, January 18, 1869. fel

THE following cases have been landed and stored at the risk and expense of the Consignees, who are requested to take immediate delivery.
Ex "Hoogly," 31st October, 1868.
VC 827 1 case Arms.
Ex "Tigre," 6th January, 1869.
HC & P 36170 10 cases Opium.
C. BERTRAND,
Principal Agent.
Hongkong, January 16, 1869.

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.
WE have this day established ourselves at this Port as Merchants and Commission Agents in connection with Messrs D. B. MERTZ & Co. of Calcutta.
Mr. HUGHES SORABEE WOODWALL is authorized to sign our Firm in Hongkong.
RUSTOMJEE DAUNJESHOY & Co.
Office No. 7, Hollywood Road.
Hongkong, January 12, 1869. 15fe

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. GEORGE WILHELM SCHWANN and of Mr. RUDOLPH HENRIKSEN in our Firm ceased on the 31st December 1867, and 31st December 1868 respectively.
Mr. FERDINAND NISSEN and Mr. HEINRICH HOPFUS have this day been admitted partners in our Firm at Hongkong and in China, which now consists of Mr. GEORGE FERDINAND NISSEN, Mr. WOLDEMAR NISSEN, Mr. ANDREW JOSEPH, Mr. FERDINAND NISSEN and Mr. HEINRICH HOPFUS.
SIEMSEN & Co.
Hongkong, January 1, 1869. 2apr

NOTICE.
MR. WILLIAM JUDSON BLYDENBERG, and Mr. GEORGE HUBERT are admitted partners in our Firm.
Mr. HENRY OUTLER Low will sign our Firm per procuration.
SMITH ARCHER & Co.
Hongkong, January 1, 1869. ma5

THE interest and responsibility of Mr. ABRAHAM DAVID ESKRINE, in our Firm in China, ceased on the 31st December last, and Mr. CHARLES ELIAS SASSOON has been admitted a partner therein from this date.
E. D. SASSOON & Co.
Hongkong, January 1, 1869. feb

I HAVE this day authorized Mr. C. LANGDON DAVIES to sign my name per procuration to all orders for goods supplied to the Hongkong Hotel, and I alone am liable to pay for goods supplied upon such orders.
I have further authorized Mr. DAVIES to collect all debts due to me on Hotel account, for which his receipt will be a sufficient discharge.
LEE AFOONG.
Hongkong, December 1, 1868. if

NOTICE.
MR. C. J. H. SCHROEDER is authorized to sign our Firm per procuration, from this date.
SCHWANBECK & THIEL.
Saigon, November 14, 1868. tf

NOTICE.
THE interest and responsibility of Mr. WILLIAM NELSON in our Firm ceased on the 30th June last.
Mr. THOMAS FIM, Mr. WILLIAM NISSET OLMSTER and Mr. H. SEYMOUR GEARY are authorized to sign our Firm in Hongkong and China from this date.
OLYFANT & Co.
Hongkong, October 6, 1868.

NOTICE.
I HAVE this day established myself as a Public Auctioneer, and General Agent, under the name of C. LANGDON DAVIES.
C. LANGDON DAVIES.
Hongkong, July 1, 1868.

NOTICE.
FROM and after this date Mr. GEORGE F. BOWMAN will act as AGENT of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company at this Port.
S. L. PHELPS,
Agent.
Hongkong, August 15, 1867.

NOTICE.
MR. HENRY LISTON DALRYMPLE is authorized to sign our Firm per procuration, at Foochow from this date.
BIRLEY & Co.
Hongkong, June 3, 1868.

NOTICE.
I HAVE established myself at this Port as General Commission Merchant, under the name of GIFFORD FORBES PARKER.
GIFFORD FORBES PARKER.
Saigon, December 20, 1867.

NOTICE.
THE interest and responsibility of Mr. FREDERICK PEDDER in our Firm ceased from this date.
H. D. BROWN & Co.
Amoy, December 31, 1868. apr2

NOTICE.
MR. FRANCIS CHOWLEY is a Partner in our Firm, which from this date will be conducted under the name of BROWN & Co.
H. D. BROWN & Co.
Amoy, January 1, 1869. apr2

Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.
MR. D. O. CLARK retires from our Firm, and Mr. J. MURRAY FORBES and Mr. E. D. BARBOUR are admitted Partners from this date.
RUSSELL & Co.
China, January 1, 1869. july2

NOTICE.
WE have this day established ourselves at this Port as MERCHANTS and COMMISSION AGENTS under the firm of KRUMMENACHER & Co.
J. KRUMMENACHER.
R. RADECKER.
Office—No. 12, Stanley Street.
Hongkong, January 1, 1869. 2fe

NOTICE.
WE have authorized Mr. CLAUD BUDDE to sign our Firm from this date.
DREYER & Co.
Hongkong, January 1, 1869.

Insurances.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CAPITAL 2,000,000 DOLLARS,
in 2,000 Shares of 1,000 Dollars each.
Consulting Committee:
GEORGE F. HEARD, Esq.
WM. KAYE, Esq.
R. ROWETT, Esq.
S. D. SASSOON, Esq.
F. BUXEY, Esq.

General Managers.—Messrs JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Head Office, No. 39, Queen's Road.

THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, which expires by effluxion of time in a few months, having proved a highly successful undertaking, it has been determined by a large number of its shareholders to form a permanent Company, under the same management and with increased Capital.

It is proposed to register the Company under the Limited Liability Ordinance, and the amount of the Capital having been fixed at Two Millions of Dollars, it is considered that Insurers will be amply secured thereby, while at the same time each shareholder will know the extent of his individual liability. The capital proposed to be called up amounts to a large sum, and provision will be made for the creation of an ample Reserve Fund, which will, it is expected, in a very short time accumulate to an amount practically to give the fullest security both to Insurers and Insured, irrespective of the unpaid Capital.

It is intended to anticipate the termination of the Old Company, by dissolving it from and after the 31st December next, and measures are being taken for that purpose.

In anticipating a successful career for the New Company, it is only necessary to present to the public the results of the Old Company since its establishment in May 1866, as exhibited by the following figures:
The total premiums collected from the 11th May 1866 to the present time, a period of only two years and five months, amount to \$304,727.72.
The losses which have been paid within the same period have amounted to \$130,081.22 and include the large sum of \$85,270 lost by the Fire at Hongkong in Nov. 1867.
The amount now at the Credit of the Working Account, after paying all Expenses and Re-insurances to date, exceeds \$160,000.00.

These figures fully warrant the most sanguine expectations of success, and it is but reasonable to expect that, strengthened with larger Capital, the present undertaking cannot fail to prove at least as successful as the former one. The Old Company, when it entered the field, had to engage a business for itself, but the New one, in taking over the outstanding risks and connections of the Old Company, will at once receive a very large amount of premium, and enter on a profitable and organized business. Moreover, there is no doubt that the risk of Fire in Hongkong has been greatly diminished by the Building Regulations now in force, and by the establishment of a Fire Brigade.

The following are the main features of the New Company:

1. A first Call of \$100, to be paid upon each share on allotment, and a further Call of \$100 to be paid in Six Months; all further Calls to be determined upon at General Meetings of the shareholders.
2. Interest at 12 per cent per annum to be in the first instance allowed on the paid up Capital, such Interest to be payable half-yearly, on 30th June, and 30th December. The profits after deducting the said Interest to be applied thus:—20 per cent, *pro rata*, amongst such of the shareholders as shall have contributed or influenced business to the Company, and the remainder in forming a Reserve Fund of \$250,000.
3. When such Reserve Fund shall have been accumulated, the payment of Interest to cease, and the profits to be applied thus:—20 per cent to be distributed as already mentioned amongst the shareholders who shall have contributed business to the Company; 30 per cent to the augmentation of the Reserve Fund until it shall reach \$1,000,000, at which figure it is to be permanently maintained; and the remaining 50 per cent to be distributed by way of dividend amongst the shareholders generally.
4. No shareholder to hold more than 250 Shares.
5. The Company to be managed by General Managers, with the assistance of a Consulting Committee.
6. The Funds of the Company to be deposited in Banks or in Government Securities approved of by the Committee.

The Deed of Association may be inspected at the Office of the General Managers, or at the Office of Mr. HENRY C. CALDWELL, the Solicitor of the Company.
Hongkong, December 15, 1868. july2

New Advertisements.

FOR SHANGHAI.
The steamer "SUWONADA," will be despatched for the above port, about the 25th instant.
For Freight or Passage, apply to AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.
Hongkong, January 20, 1869. ja25

EMPLOYMENT WANTED, by a young MAN, (English) aged 30, of business habits, and several years experience in Hongkong. Apply by letter, "A.B.C." care of Office of this Paper.
Hongkong, December 26, 1868.

SAYLE & Co.,
VICTORIA EXCHANGE,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

RESPECTFULLY solicit inspection of their New GOODS, in the following Departments.

SILKS.
Keying Dresses—Velvets.
RIBBONS.
Lace—Fancy Dresses.
HOSIERY.
Gloves—Trimming.
HABERDASHERY.
Manchester—Prints.
MANTLES.
Shawls—Jackets.
BONNETS.
Millinery—Ladies' Outfits.
BABY LINEN.

Gentlemen's Hats—Gloves.
HOSIERY.
Cloths—Tweeds.
Tailoring in all its Branches.

PERFUMERY, &c.
Household Linens—Blankets.
CARPETS.

FURNISHING DRAPERY,
Etc., Etc.

P.S.—The Dress-making, Milliner and Tailoring are under the Supervision of experienced West End hands.
Hongkong, November 12, 1868.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVAL.
Jan. 20, *Agnes*, Brit. ship, 1011, Knapp, New York. 22nd July, 1,300 tons. Coal.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Jan. 20, *Fair Leader*, Brit. barque, 474, Newman, Shanghai, Jan. 14, Ballast.—Order.
Jan. 20, *Amacore*, Brit. barque, 390, Halmston, Bangkok, 6th Dec., Rice, 9,000 piculs.—BIRLEY & Co.
Jan. 20, *Jawa*, N. G. barque, 308, Martell, Yokohama, 3rd Jan., Ballast.—AARHOLD, KARENS & Co.
Jan. 20, *Nagano*, str., from Whampoa.

CLEARED.
Edouard Marie, for Bangkok.
Yess, for Swatow.
Clon Alpine, for Singapore.
Nada, for Whampoa.
Oscar Vidal, for Whampoa.
Telegraph, for Bangkok.
Princess Sarah, for Bangkok.
Martha, for Yokohama.
Ferdinand, for Amoy.
Macao, for Amoy.

PASSENGERS.
The following European passengers left this for Canton on the 19th:—
Messrs Howard, Courant, and one other.
The following European passengers arrived here from Canton on the 20th:—
Mr. Hase.

SHIPPING REPORT.
The Brit. ship *Agnes*, from New York, reports that had weather crossed the Equator on 15th Sept., in long. 28 W.; 54 days out; passed the meridian of the Cape of Good Hope on 29th Oct., in lat. 40 S., 90 days out. Made a wide-southward island on 12th Dec.; had fine weather and light variable winds; had N.E. trade from Plover island until arrival in port, 182 days out. On 22nd Dec., in Gullolo passage, spoke Brit. barque *Buried*, from Liverpool bound to Shanghai, 106 days out; on 18th Dec., off Banda, spoke the American barque *Dasher*, from New York bound to Jeddo.

WHAMPOA SHIPPING.
DEPARTURES.
Jan. 17, *Glendower*, New York, General.
Batavia, Ningpo, Do.
Georg, Tientsin, Do.
From Canton.
Jan. 17, United Service, for Coast Ports, General.

CARGOES.
(From the Canton Customs Daily Returns.)
Summary of Imports and Exports passed at the Canton River Steamer Office during the week ended 16th January.

Imported per *Kinshan* and *Poyang* from Hongkong:—
1087 bales Bantol Cotton.
245 bales Bombay Cotton.
270 bales Native Cotton.
65 bales Cotton Yarn.
30 piculs Wax.
50 bales Nankeen.
44 piculs Medicine.
899 piculs Lead.
10 cases Ginzeng.
143 bales Hemp.
938 packages Tobacco.
63 packages dried Flowers.
13 chests Patna and Malwa Opium.
63 packages Straw Mats.
45 bales Elephant's Teeth.
60 piculs Green Paint.
11 baskets dried Prawns.
61 cases and bales Cotton Goods.
18 cases and bales Woollen Goods.
44 packages Sandries.

Exported per *Kinshan* and *Poyang* to Hongkong:—
180 cases and bales Fine Silk.
63 cases Silk Piece Goods.
8 cases Punjun.
11 cases Shawls and Handkerchiefs.
287 packages Chinaware.
63 boxes Preserves.
5 cases Rhubarb.
3 tons Fire Crackers.
28 cases Glass Bangles.
67 cases Umbrellas.
235 cases Kittysols.
29 boxes Glass Beads.
71 cases Paper.
25 packages Trunks.
361 piculs Sugar.
6 tons Tea.
313 packages and parcels Sundries.

Summary of Imports and Exports, into and from the Canton Custom House, by the Native Craft, during the week ended 17th January.

Imported from Hongkong:—
283 bales Agar-agar.
127 bales Buffalo Bones.
1512 bags Chaff.
138 bags Coke.
98 bales Cotton.
62 bales Cattle Fish.
1702 bags Red Dates.
86 bales salted Fish.
263 bales Fish Maws.
72 baskets salted Fruit.
60 baskets Fresh Fruit.
68 packages Broken Glass.
317 cases Window Glass.
102 packages Hemp.
147 packages Hemp.
2609 piculs Buffalo Hides.
77 bales dried Flowers.
206 packages Medicine.
2321 packages and 254 piculs Nail Rods.
Bars and Hoops.
138 packages old Copper.
87 cases Copper Sheathing.
2468 pigs Lead.
102 cases Tin Plates.
58 bales Mushroom.
21,680 piculs and 28 bags Peas.
55 packages dried Peas.
76 bags Pepper.
164 bags dried Persimons.
229 Pigs.
354 piculs Planks.
101 cases Raisins.
3042 packages and 263 piculs Battans.
1165 bags Rice.
249 piculs and 5 packages Sandalwood.
333 piculs and 4 packages Sapanwood.
119 jars Samschoo.
1770 bales Shark's Fins.
78 packages Tobacco.
196 packages Vermicelli.
21 Sheep.
21 piculs Furniture.
616 packages Sundries.

Exported to Hongkong:—
40 packages Araspis.
64 packages Bamboo Ware.
38 packages Brass Ware.
98 packages China Ware.
194 packages Charcoal.
40 piculs prepared Chalk.
40 piculs Soap.
17 packages Yellow and white Lead.
85 packages Fireworks and Crackers.
350 bundles Firewood.
217 packages green Ginger.
61 packages Iron Boilers.
581 pieces Iron Boilers.
322 cases Iron Sticks.
66 packages Mirrors with Frames.
8870 rolls Mats.
76 rolls Straw Mats.
83 cases Melon Seeds.
30 cases Marble Slabs.
294 packages and 808 piculs Planks.
192 packages Paper.
1800 jars Pickles.
104 cases pickled Melons.
80 packages Fana.
47 jars Samschoo.
1813 packages Sugar.
1150 chests and 952 jars Tea.
108 packages Tobacco.
44 cases and 361 piculs Umbrella.
514 baskets Vegetables.
169 packages and 232 piculs Wood Ware.
75 jars Water Chestnuts.
13 cases Rhubarb.
48 bags Toothpowder.
113 packages Medicine.
682 packages Sundries.

For United Service, cleared for Coast Ports:—
2915 bales Fana.
132 baskets Fresh Fruit.
101 cases Glue.
330 packages yellow and white Lead.
100 cases dried Lichees.
180 cases dried Lungans.
100 bales Orange Peel.
250 bales Battans.
567 bags brown Sugar.
337 packages Sundries.

Additional per *Glendower*, cleared for New York.
1636 rolls Matting.
15 bales Silk.
Per *Batavia*, cleared for Ningpo.
4129 packages Fana.
34 cases Glue.
80 packages Yellow and White Lead.
792 cases dried Lichees.
63 bales White Sugar.
33 packages Medicine.
81 packages Sundries.
Per *Georg*, cleared for Tientsin.
607 bags Brown Sugar.
9 packages Sundries.
Per *Clon Alpine*, loading for New York.
1003 bales Cassia.
50 cases Cassia Triga.
434 packages Fire Crackers.
250 boxes Preserves.
Per *Magnet*, loading for New York.
600 boxes Preserves.
Imported per *Georg*, from Tientsin.
136 cases Tobacco.
82 bales Liquorice.
33 packages Medicine.
22 baskets Quartz.

Memo of Cargo per steamer *China*, sailed on 19th Jan., 1869:—
To Yokohama:—
6,642 bags Sugar.
2,475 bags Rice.
637 bags Tea Seeds.
50 pkgs. Cotton and Woollen Goods.
432 bales Yarn.
20 packages Cordage.
82 cases Wine.
10 bundles Skins.
11 cases Opium.
88 bales Tea Mats.
8 packages Furniture.
65 packages Arms and Ammunition.
302 boxes Lamp Oil.
2 boxes Treasure.
348 packages Merchandise.

To Higo:—
80 packages Merchandise.
7 packages Furniture and Hardware.
To San Francisco:—
602 boxes Oil.
400 Hemp.
40 half-chests Tea.
267 boxes do.
24 cases Silk.
22 coils Cordage.
14 packages Nutmegs.
14 packages Sago and Tapioca.
146 bags Pepper.
80 boxes Opium.
1,234 bags Sugar, each 100 lbs.
1,200 bags Rice, each 60 lbs.
18 packages Hardware.
20 bags Cloves.
6 packages Fungus.
1,788 packages Merchandise.
1,978 packages Sundries.

To Calcutta:—
2 cases Merchandise.
To New York:—
43 packages Raw Silk.
80 packages Silk Goods.
168 packages Tea.
8 packages Merchandise.

POST-OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.
MAILS WILL CLOSE:—
For SWATOW, AMOY & FOOCHEW, on Thursday, the 21st instant, at 7.30 A.M.
For SINGAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA, on Thursday, the 21st instant, at 1 P.M.
For SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA, on Thursday, the 21st instant, at 1 P.M.

It is hereby notified that, under the authority of a Treasury Warrant dated the 1st May last, Superintendent, or First-Class Schoolmasters in the Army will, in future, be entitled to the same privileges in regard to Letters sent by or addressed to them on their own private affairs as are at present enjoyed by Commissioned Officers in the Army; and all Army Schoolmasters will be entitled (as Army Schoolmasters of all but the First-Class now are) to the same privileges, in regard to their Letters, as are enjoyed by non-commissioned Officers and Private Soldiers.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General,
General Post Office,
Hongkong, July 31, 1868.

It is hereby notified that, under the provisions of a Treasury Warrant dated the 7th May, the Postage on a Letter not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight posted in Hongkong or at any of the Ports in China and Japan addressed to Egypt, or posted in Egypt addressed to Hongkong or any of the Ports in China and Japan, and conveyed in the Mails by British Packet, is reduced from Twenty-four Cents to Twelve Cents.

For Letters exceeding half-an-ounce in weight a further rate of Twelve Cents for each half-ounce is chargeable.
Prepayment of the Postage is compulsory.
F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General,
General Post Office,
Hongkong, July 15, 1868.

It is hereby notified for general information that henceforward the Postage, chargeable on Book and Packets of Pattern, addressed to the United States of America transmitted via the United Kingdom will be as follows, viz:—

Via SOUTHAMPTON.
Under 4 ounces, 12 cents.
Above 4 ounces and not exceeding 8 ounces, 24 " "
Above 8 ounces and not exceeding 12 ounces, 36 " "
Above 12 ounces and not exceeding 16 ounces, 48 " "
For every additional 4 oz., 12 " "
Via MANCHESTER.
Under 4 ounces, 16 cents.
Above 4 ounces and not exceeding 8 ounces, 32 " "
Above 8 ounces and not exceeding 12 ounces, 48 " "
Above 12 ounces and not exceeding 16 ounces, 64 " "
For every additional 4 oz., 16 " "

Prepayment of the Postage is compulsory in each case.
F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General,
General Post Office,
Hongkong, June 18, 1868.

UNDER DESPATCH.
Per Singapore, Penang and Calcutta.—
Per *Clon Alpine*, on Thursday, the 21st instant, at 2 P.M.
Per Singapore, Penang and Calcutta.—
Per *Arratoon Apkar*, on Thursday, the 21st instant, at 2 P.M.
Per Swatow, Amoy and Foochow.—
Per *Yesso*, on Thursday, the 21st instant, at 8 A.M.

QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 20th January, 1869.
OPIMUM.—Patna, New, 638 1/2
Bombar, New, 638 1/2
Malwa, 665 1/2
COTTON.—CALCUTTA, 16 a 104
BOMBAY, 17 a 214
SHANGHAI, 19 a 20

Exchange.
Bank 6 months' sight, 4/5
Credits, 6 4/5 1/2 a 4/5 1/2
On Calcutta, 3 days' sight, Rs. 221 a 222
" Bombay, 3 days' sight, Rs. 221 a 222
" Shanghai, 3 days' sight, Bank, Tls. 74 1/2
Bar Silver, 17 dwts. B., 9 nominal.
Sycee, 6.50 a 7.00
Mexicans, 4 prem.
Gold Leaf, 23.10 a 23.30
Gold Bar, 98 touch, 22.80 a 23.10
English Sovereigns, 4.65
Australian Sovereigns, 4.63
Discount, 8 a 10
H. & W. Dock, Old, 4 a 6 p. c. a. S. New, 23 a 25
Do. do. New, 27 p. c. p.
Union Dock 30 p. c. a. d.

Temperatures.
HONGKONG, 20th January, 1869.
(Taken at Messrs Falconer & Co.'s Premises, Queen's Road.)
THERMOMETER.—9 A.M., Dry, 81
Do. Wet, 69
Do. 4 P.M., Dry, 84
Do. Wet, 60 1/2
Self-registered Maximum, 85
Do. Minimum, 61
BAROMETER.—9 A.M., 30.416
Do. 4 P.M., 30.615

MORRIS'S DIRECTORY for CHINA, JAPAN and THE PHILIPPINES, &c., 1869.

THE above Work is now PUBLISHED and READY FOR CIRCULATION. Apply to JOHN B. MORRIS, Messrs. BOWEN & Co., Queen's Road.
Hongkong, January 13, 1869.

PRINTING of every description executed at the "China Mail" Office with accuracy, neatness, punctuality, and at reasonable charges, by CHARLES A. SAINT.

PRICE 50 CENTS.

A TABLE showing the Proposed Movements of the Mail Steam Packets of the P. & O. Company for the Year 1869, as approved by Her Majesty's Postmaster General.

To be had at the China Mail Office, Wyndham Street, Hongkong, December 26, 1868.

NOTICE.—It is particularly requested that all communications relating to the general business of this paper be addressed to the Proprietor and in no case to individuals by name. Much delay and inconvenience in the transaction of business will thereby be avoided.

THE CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20, 1869.

TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS.

No complaint is more frequently made against Colonial and Country Journals than that of what the reading public are pleased to term "carelessness" in printing. Even in large cities, where the appliances of the printer's art are most fully developed and used, the journals issued by the most important houses scarcely ever reach that perfection which the careless eye is apt to attribute to them. There are of course all grades of error, from the one or two upturned letters or misplaced commas of the *Juniper* to the errors of the small sheet issued in some out-of-the-way corner of the world, which owes its blunders as much to the innocence of its conductors as to the faults of that universally-railed-at individual, the typical compositor. Conscious that we are occasional sinners in this way, but consoled by the knowledge that our China, Straits and India contemporaries are open to an equal share of blame, it has occurred to us that some amusement might be afforded to our readers by a few words on the subject.

To draw broadly the difference between the "reading" of a first class newspaper or of large publishing houses at home, and similar institutions in the colonies or out of the way localities, we may observe that every book passes in the former case through the hands of several "proof-readers," as many as six being employed in succession on any important work, such as the Bible for instance. These persons, to whom "reading" for the press is the occupation of their lives, are able to conduct their work in convenient and isolated rooms furnished with copious works of reference, and are never permitted to be disturbed by trifling interruptions whilst so employed. On the large papers a similar course is pursued, three or four readers being usually employed before the final "revises" are submitted to the editor to whose department they belong; (eight editors it, we believe, the *Times* staff, the "Editor" so-called being Editor-in-Chief.) Accuracy on the part of the head readers is ensured by a fine for every error discovered after editorial revision. And yet despite all this care errors will creep into even the best-revised journals! A writer in a home magazine says:—"There are a good many people who think proof-reading one of the easiest things in the world, and who get very impatient over mistakes in books and newspapers," and proceeds to give some details which are somewhat remarkable. Few people would credit the fact that there actually exists a modern edition of the Bible with 6,000 (six thousand) mistakes! Yet such is the case. We extract the following paragraph, which is perhaps the most curious item of typographical chit-chat across which we have stumbled for some time—

"Some professors of the University at Edinburgh resolved to publish a book which should be a model of typographical accuracy. Six proof-readers were employed, and, after it was thought to be perfect, the sheets were packed up in the hall of the university, and a reward of £20 was offered for every mistake that should be discovered. When the book was printed, it was found that it contained several errors, one being in the title-page, and another in the first line in the first chapter! The only books that are believed to be entirely free from errors are an Oxford edition of the Bible, a London and Leipzig Horse, and an American reprint of Dante."

So much for home typography, with every care bestowed upon its execution, under the hands of men trained by years of labour to a correct performance of their work, and exposed to the criticism of the educated classes of Great Britain—a community particularly exigent in the matter of spelling the picture and ask if those foreign press far ard of their hor It must be re with; the comp in India and O a large proporti possessing acci have seldom acc of the language Those conversat in China will v the vast differ in the "proo Reader." Ro say that for five composers, thi work of natives, ever, an interne composers who bilities of cor fully equal to the again scarcely a follow-composi however that th working and i arising chiefly f ledge of English in recently com of native comp galae, says:—

"The explan chianally, not o print correspond compunctious be in hand-writing. When a new pla placed before the had, that is his 'tion' or any o as schoolboys lea They do their w than English com it mechanically."

We can hardly tence because, e ness as regards knowledge whic curate division o greatly wanting temporary refera compositors as It cannot be s institute a comp of Printing Ho

Finally, a wo ing." The same ed says:—"The imperfect a clas not more typogr published in Asia to correct a "proo typographically, two mental oper other in the pro case of the writ where there is a and the functio Writer are uni want of good a the printing off remarks we can who "read" p rial journals, f erent departme cal," and this difficulty of re add to this the by visits, "chits etc., we may f profession out he bearings for oc united efforts of a staff of 25 porters, enforced nute accuracy, even a perfect c al at home, it i if we and our found tripping.

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DIRECTORY

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master of spelling. Let us now reverse

the picture and, judging by the results,

ask if those connected with the Eastern

foreign press fall much below the stand-

ard of their home brethren?

It must be remembered that to start

with, the composers of printing offices

in India and China have amongst them

a large proportion of natives who, while

possessing considerable manual dexterity,

have seldom acquired a perfect command

of the language in which they "set up."

Those conversant with printing matters

in China will very readily acknowledge

the vast difference which this fact makes

in the "proofs" submitted to the

"Reader." Roughly speaking, we may

say that for five mistakes made by English

compositors, thirty will be found in the

work of natives. There is in China, how-

ever, an intermediate class of Portuguese

compositors who widely vary in their cap-

abilities of correct work. Many are

fully equal to those at home, while others

again scarcely come up to their native

fellow-compositors. It cannot be denied

however that they are, as a rule, hard-

working and industrious, their errors

arising chiefly from an inaccurate know-

ledge of English. The *Friend of India*,

in recently commenting upon the subject

of native compositors, Chinese and Ben-

gale, says:

"The explanation is that they learn me-

chanically, not only that English letters in

print correspond to the type in the various

compartments before them, but that letters

in hand-writing are similarly represented.

When a new and difficult manuscript is

placed before them they learn the writer's

hand, that is the mode of writing 'J' or

'tion' or any other letter or termination,

as schoolboys learn the Greek characters.

They do their work better in many cases

than English compositors, because they do

it mechanically."

We can hardly endorse this latter sen-

tence because, even assuming its cor-

rectness as regards spelling, the intelligent

knowledge which is necessary to the ac-

curate division of words, spacing, &c., is

greatly wanting. And again, our con-

temporary refers only to such English

compositors as he meets with in India.

It cannot be supposed that he means to

institute a comparison with the "whips"

of Printing House Square.

Finally, a word or two about the "read-

ing." The same paper we have above quot-

ed says:—"The marvel is that with so

imperfect a class of readers, there are

not more typographical mistakes in papers

published in Asia. No writer can be trusted

to correct a 'proof' of his own composition,

typographically, so well as a reader, for the

two mental operations conflict with each

other in the process of correction in the

case of the writer. Hence in a country

where there is no trained literary class,

and the functions of pure Editor and

Writer are united in one person, the

want of good and reliable readers in

the printing office is doubly felt." These

remarks we can most fully endorse. All

who read "proofs" for India and Colo-

nia journals are also "writers" in dif-

ferent departments, "editorial" or "lo-

cal," and this fact greatly increases the

difficulty of reading correctly. If we

add to this the countless interruptions

LOCAL.

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STRAM.

BOAT COMPART.

The half-yearly general meeting of the

above Company was held at the office of the

General Agents this afternoon. Present:

Messrs. Hindle (presiding), G. Heard, R.

S. Walker, Mollish, Kaye, Waller, R. De-

acon, G. Anderson, Pollard, &c. Viscount

de Cerep, Messrs. Hart, Jackson and

Reimers.

The chairman having read the notice of

the meeting and stated that he would be

glad of any remarks from shareholders, Mr

Walker observed that he saw that the sub-

sidy to Kwok-Acheong had not yet ceased.

Mr G. Heard replied in the negative.

Mr Walker remarked that it was ques-

tionable whether it would pay.

Mr Heard observed that now Acheong

had three steamers (all in good trim) in-

stead of two. The question had been ar-

gued over and over again before the Board

of Directors; and they deemed it to amount

to a paying away of four per cent. instead

of losing five per cent. Besides, the

agreement (which was not yet settled) could

be terminated by two months' notice. If

carried out, as the Directors proposed to

do, they meditated a rise in the passage

money for Chinese; which, in their op-

inion, would make up for any expenditure

in that direction. They proposed to raise

lower-deck fares for Chinese to 80 cents,

and upper deck fares to \$1, from the 1st of

February next.

Mr Kaye remarked that the Directors

were simply coming back to the old tariff.

Mr Heard replied that they were going

back to old rates; they were the same as

those charged for Hakow at Shanghai.

Mr Walker said that he had no doubt

the Board had very good reasons for do-

ing so. He would have thought it would

have been better to have carried over a

little more to the deprecation fund.

Mr Heard explained that this was pre-

vented, or it least made up by the fact that

they had sold on hand to the value of over

\$20,000.

The Chairman then proposed, and Mr

Anderson seconded, that the report be

adopted; which motion was unanimously

carried.

The re-election of auditors (Messrs Rid-

dell and Hart) was next proposed by Mr

Deacon, seconded by Mr Heard, and car-

ried.

The meeting then separated.

The Report of the Directors is as fol-

lows:—"The board of directors have now the

pleasure of submitting to you their annual

Report upon the affairs of the com-

pany, and its operations during the period

from the 1st day of July to the 31st Decem-

ber, 1868.

The accounts are now laid before you, and

show the working of the steamers for the

past six months. After paying all com-

missions, running expenses, salaries, premia

of insurance, interests on loans, bad debts

and outgoings of every description to the 31st

December, there remains the sum of

\$71,372.20 in the hands of the company.

Of this the directors write off one-third

of the sum standing at preliminary ex-

penses, viz: \$23,733.66; and would recommend

paying \$20,000 to the Depreciation and Reserve

Fund, the declaration of a dividend on the

paid up capital at the rate of 12 per cent

per of gambling, and he had now very little

confidence in any of them.—Defendant ad-

mitted that everything which his master

said was true. He had nothing to say;

but he would promise not to go to a gam-

bling-house again.—Fined 25 cents, or 24

hours' solitary confinement.

A branded Chinaman was charged as

being dangerous to the peace, and with

having attempted to stab with a knife the

policeman who apprehended him.—Mr

Caldwell, under whose instructions the man

was apprehended, stated that he could not

produce the Chinese who spoke of the at-

tempt to stab, because he would then be

a marked man and would not be secure of his

life.—Mr May said that, supposing this

Chinaman had been stabbed or killed, then

he must have come forward.—Mr Caldwell

replied that it might be as dangerous for him

to come forward now, as if he were stabbed

in reality. But it was the Constable whom

the prisoner attempted to stab; his informant

only saw the gesture.—P. O. 289 (Sikh)

stated that he saw the knife in the hands of

prisoner, but did not see any threat.—Mr

Douglas well accounted for the brands on

prisoner's ears by giving a catalogue of of-

fences committed by him during the last five

or six years.—He had been deported twice.

—His Worship advised the prisoner to stay

on the mainland, as it was larger than this

Colony. He would send him to prison for

three months, with hard labor, as a rogue

and vagabond, and the police would be

especially instructed to keep him off this

island.

The Chinese employed at the Pokfulam

Water-works, who were yesterday charged

with having threatened the Chinese clerk

at the works with a pistol, was brought up

on remand. The constable repeated his

statement to the effect that he took the pis-

tol out of the prisoner's hand.—His Wor-

ship stated that it was fortunate for the

prisoner, that he did not present the pistol

to any one, because being in possession of

it, as he was, during a time of disturbance,

he would have been punished very severely.

It was also fortunate for him that he did

not fire it off, as the barrel was cracked

and more than likely it would have burst

on being fired and done him more damage

than any one else. He would fine him \$50,

with the option of one month's hard labor

Post Office

For Sale,
FOR SALE
Ex Zephyr, from Sydney.
Tons best screened Steam Coal.
By:
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, December 5, 1868.

FOR SALE.

YELLOW METAL 16 to 28 oz and
Nails. Apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
Hongkong, September 15, 1868.

FOR SALE.

STOVES—STOVES—STOVES.

Apply to
L. FRICKEL & Co
Hongkong, January 2, 1869.

FOR SALE.
Ex "Lota."

WIRE ROPE from 1 in. to 3 in. Gal-
vanized Jib HANKS, 2 in. to 34 in.
Superior Bottled ALE and Guinness
TOUT. Pump LEATHER.

Apply to
FAWCETT & Co.
 Hongkong, January 4, 1869.

FOR SALE.
 THE Well-known Racing Pony **ALARM**,
 LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
 Hongkong, December 5, 1868.

FOR SALE.
THEFTING

Sheet LEAD.
Galvanized RODS.
Boiler PLATES.
Brown Sheathing FELT.
Yellow Metal Stern PLATES.
BOLTS and NUTS.

RAY & Co.
Hongkong, December 4, 1868. 41a

FOR SALE.
UFF & GORDON'S PALE SHERRY
 in 1 doz. cases.
 Bass ALE in qts.
 Bass ALE in pints.
 Guinness STOUT, in qts.
 do. do., in pints.
 Hennessy BRANDY.
 Kivahan I. L. WHISKY.
 RAY & Co.

Hongkong, December 4, 1868. 49

FOR SALE.
 ASS'S BEER, quarts and pints.
 Allsopp's BEER.
 Champagne ALE.
 Bridge's PORTER.
 Pale India STOUT.
 French FATTIES.
 Imperial PLUMS.
 TOBACCO and CIGARETTES.

TOBACCO and CIGARS,
 SHERRY—PORT—CHAMPAGNE.
 Yellow SOAP.
 Toilet SETS,
 TURPENTINE—Paint OIL—CANVAS
 &c., &c.
 A small portable PUMP, with HOSE
 complete.
 J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer and General Commission

Commercial Bank Buildings,
Queen's Road,
Hongkong, January 6, 1869.

COALS.

THE Undersigned are prepared to Coal
Steamers on the most reasonable
terms from a Cargo of English Steam Coals
on board in this Harbour or from fresh
English and Australian Coals.

RO. S. WALKER & Co.
 Hongkong, September 22, 1868.

FOR SALE.
Just Received.
 100 Barrels PORTLAND CEMENT.
 Apply to
 FREDERIC DEGENAER,
 3, d'Aguilar Street.
 Hongkong, September 12, 1868.

FOR SALE.
Ex S.S. "TIGRE"
FEW Bags of Mocha COFFEE, @ \$7
per bag of 28 lb.
Apply to
G. DUBOST & Co.
Hongkong, August 31, 1868. tj

FOR SALE.
WALKER & Co.
ROB. S. WALKER & Co.
 Hongkong, October 8, 1868. tf.

FOR SALE.
J. MUMM & Co.'s CHAMPAGNE.
MUMM & Co.'s HOCK & MOSLELE,
 qts. and pts.
 BILLINGWORTH'S SHERRY and PORT.

HAMBERTIN, WHISKEY.
WHITE & PRICE'S BRANDY.
ELLSON'S ALE, draught and bottle.
CARCLAY & GUINNESS' STOUT.
BRIDGES & SONS' PORTER.
ROB. S. WALKER & Co.
Hongkong November 20, 1867.

NEW BOOK,
THE Speculation

'The Old Philosopher'
 LAU-TSZE.
 Translated from the Chinese
 BY
 JOHN CHALMERS, A.M.
 Price \$1.50.
 ALSO,
 'The Origin of the Chinese' by the same
 Author: Price \$1.
 Only at Messrs. L. & CO.

Apply at Messrs LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
 the London Mission House.
 Hongkong, October 17, 1868.

FOR SALE.
 YELLOW METAL, 13 to 28 oz. Muntz
 and Vianal.
 JOHN BURD & Co.
 Hongkong, April 5, 1867.

FOR SALE.
UNTZ's Yellow METAL, 20/28 oz. and
NAILS,
Also,
Swiss Patent Yellow METAL Keel
TEES, 12lbs. and 13lb. with NAILS,
Apply to
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
Hongkong, June 14, 1867.

FOR SALE.
PRINTING PAPER.
HESSE & Co.
Hongkong, June 19, 1868.
Printed & Published by CHARLES ARNHEIM
Printer, Proprietor, at No. 2, Wyndham
Street, Victoria, Hongkong.

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For Sale.

Insurance.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
(LIFE DEPARTMENT.)

INCREASE OF LIMIT.

THE Undersigned have received *Extension Limits*, and are now authorized to accept **RISKS** and to issue **Life Policies** for Sums not exceeding £2,000 with reference to the Head Office.

ROB. S. WALKER & Co.
Agents.
Hongkong, January 19, 1869.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned having received *extended limits* from **THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY**, are now authorized to issue Policies against **FIRE** as follows, viz. On any one first-class Building, or Goods stored therein:—in Hongkong \$60,000; in Macao \$45,000.

ROB. S. WALKER & Co.
Agents Royal Insur. Company of Liverpool
Hongkong, June 17, 1864.

REDUCTION
IN THE RATES OF PREMIUM FOR
FIRE INSURANCE.

THE Undersigned have (as already intimated) in their Circular dated 14th October last received authority from the Secretary of the **ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY** to Reduce the rate of Premium under certain circumstances, on **PRIVY RESIDENCES** and on **FURNITURE** and **PICTURES**, therein contained.

In cases of **DWELLING-HOUSES** removed from the Town, the rate of Premium will be *Three-quarters per Cent.* in place of *one per Cent.* For **Annua** as hitherto charged; and in cases of **Residences**, or situated in detached or semi-detached, the rate will be further reduced to *One-half per Cent.*

The **Royal's Annual Rates** for **FIRE INSURANCES** on the various classes of Building and their contents will therefore remain as follows, until further notice, viz.:

<i>Dwelling-Houses</i> (removed from the Town) and their Contents,	$\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
<i>Other Dwelling-Houses</i> (similarly situated) and their Contents,	$\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.
<i>First Class China House</i> and their Contents,	$\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.
<i>Other Risks</i> as per special arrangements.	$\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

ROB. S. WALKER & Co.
Agents Royal Insurance Company
Hongkong, November 9, 1866.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company are requested to furnish the Undersigned with a list of **Premia** contributed by them up to the 31st October last, to afford the distribution of the 25 per cent Profit reserved for the Contributors to the Company.

AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.
General Agents.
Hongkong, January 2, 1869.

PACIFIC INSURANCE COMPANY OF SAN FRANCISCO.

THE Undersigned, *Agents* for the above Company are prepared to grant Policies against **FIRE**, on **BUILDINGS** and **GOODS**, at current rates.

RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, February 6, 1867.

BATAVIA SEA & FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed *Agents* in Hongkong for the above named Company are prepared to grant Policies against **SEA RISKS**, at current rates.

RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, April 1, 1866.

YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.

THE Undersigned having been appointed *Secretaries and Agents* of this Association, are prepared to issue Policies upon **Marine Risks** at current rates of premium. Policies can be made payable in London, New York, Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Hongkong, Foochow and Shanghai.

In addition to the usual brokerage the Association returns to the assured of each year at the close of each current year fifteen (15) per cent of the profits of the Company for that year divided pro rata to the amount of premium paid by each policy-holder.

RUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, March 2, 1867.

PACIFIC INSURANCE COMPANY OF SAN FRANCISCO.

THE Undersigned having been appointed *Agents* in China for the above Insurance Company are prepared to grant Policies covering **Marine Risks**, at the current rates.

FUSSELL & Co.

Hongkong, July 6, 1866.

SAMARAN SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF SAMARANG.

THE Undersigned having been appointed *Agents* in Macao for the above named Company are prepared to grant Policies covering **Marine Risks** at the current Rates.

RAYNAL & Co.

Macao, August 4, 1866.

DE OOSTERLING SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF BATAVIA.

SAMARANG SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF SAMARANG.

THE Undersigned having been appointed *Agents* in Hongkong for the above named Companies are prepared to grant Policies against **Sea Risks** on the usual terms.

SIEMSEN & Co.

Hongkong, August 1866.

NOTICE.

NORTHERN ASSURANCE COMPANY.

FROM and after this date the following Rates will be charged for **Short Period Insurances**:—

Not exceeding one month,	$\frac{1}{2}$ of the Annual rate
Above one month and not exceeding 3 months,	$\frac{1}{3}$ " " "
Above 3 months and not exceeding 6 months,	$\frac{1}{4}$ " " "
Above 6 months,	the full annual rate

TURNER & Co.
Agents.

Hongkong, April 19, 1866.

